

**Servers Today, December 5, 2021**

**Jesus Christ As Our Great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-5:1-10)**

Speaker: *Jojo Ramos*  
 Song Leader: *Annan Bayla*  
 Invocation: *To Be Assigned (TBA)*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *TBA*  
 Communion Text: *Romans 8:1-4*  
 Scripture Reading: *TBA*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *TBA*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *TBA*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *TBA*  
 Closing Prayer: *TBA*  
 Announcement: *Annan Bayla*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *Jojo Ramos*  
 Song Leader: *Annan Bayla*  
 To Bring Flowers: *Montes Family*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *Suspended*  
 To Bring Drinks: *Suspended*  
 Usher/ettes: *Volunteers*

Communion: *Alton Mark Bayla*  
 Worship Coordinator: *Lem Glori | Art Tacay*

**How To Become a Biblical Christian**

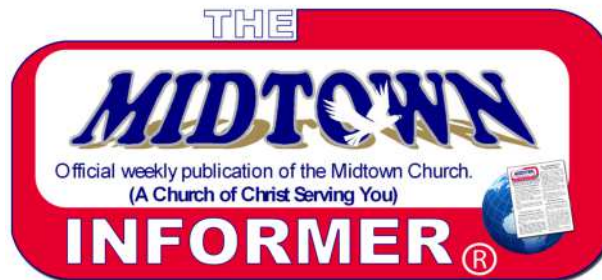
- 1). *Admit that you are a sinner and in need of salvation, 1 John 3:4,8; Rom.3:10,23; Rom. 6:23.*
- 2). *Hear the pure New Testament gospel of Christ; Romans 1:16; Rom. 10:17.*
- 3). *Believe the gospel, Hebrews 11:6; Mark 16:16; John 8:24*
- 4). *Repent of your sins, Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30.*
- 5). *Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, Mat. 10:32; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10.*
- 6). *Be baptized into Christ, Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16.*
- 7). *Remain faithful unto death, Rev. 2:10;*

**Servers for December 12, 2021**

**Standing On God's Promise (Hebrews 6:13-20)**

Speaker: *Ezra Valdez*  
 Song Leader: *Aldian Po*  
 Invocation: *To Be Assigned (TBA)*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *TBA*  
 Communion Text: *1 Corinthians 15:1-8*  
 Scripture Reading: *TBA*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *TBA*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *TBA*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *TBA*  
 Closing Prayer: *TBA*  
 Announcement: *Andy Bestre*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *Ezra Valdez*  
 Song Leader: *Aldian Po*  
 To Bring Flowers: *Bayating Family*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *Suspended*  
 To Bring Drinks: *Suspended*  
 Usher/ettes: *Volunteers*

Communion: *Alton Mark Bayla*  
 Worship Coordinator: *Lem Glori | Art Tacay*



Vol. XXXVII No. 49 December 5, 2021 Baguio City, Philippines

**Midtown brethren meet with Luna's young people**

At the invitation of sister Luz Espiritu—Olidan who is presently in the country from Hong Kong, some brethren from Midtown, namely, spouses Gaspar Jr. & Virgie Baldo and June Reyes together with brother Shem Sameon and his son, Earl Tristan, travelled to Rimos, Luna, La Union last November 26, 2021. There they met with sister Luz Olidan and nine young people of the congregation there.

A SPECIAL DEVOTIONAL was held on the seashore in the afternoon where brother Shemer Sameon served as speaker. He spoke on the famous "PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN." The group appreciated the lessons learned from the parable as well as the opportunity to have met with brethren from Baguio. The Baguio guests stayed overnight at the Espiritu family's newly built house. They should have been joined by more Midtown brethren, however, on their way to Luna, La Union, they were refused entry through the LGU of Burgos, La Union.

The YOUNG PEOPLE of the Luna congregation were edified by the fellowship and are looking forward to another like opportunity in the near future.Ω

**YPeez join debutante's thanksgiving celebration**

Midtown brethren and some YOUNG PEOPLE led by brothers Ezra Valdez and Jesse Reuben Bestre were among guests in the 18TH BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON CELEBRATION of sister Ma. Alexis J. Sunggay at the JMC TRANSIENT HOUSE located at 22-B Sto. Niño Road, Bakakeng Central, this city, last Thursday, December 2, 2021.

Brother Jake Ambito, one of the ministers serving with the ALABAMA CHURCH OF CHRIST in Dasmarias, Cavite, served as SPEAKER in the DEVOTIONAL in which he stressed that as an active part of the society, Christians, being the light of the world, are to "SHINE LIKE STARS IN THE UNIVERSE" (Philippians 2:15) by exhibiting Christ-likeness in thoughts, in manners and in speech. Brother Annan Bayla served as PRAYER LEADER in the Benediction. All thanks and praise to the Lord!Ω

**"We must see that it is not happiness that makes us grateful but the gratefulness that makes us happy."**

**READ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**INSIDE PAGE:**

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**Friday care group mulls over yearender activity**

As the year 2021 is nearing its close, the FRIDAY CARE GROUP (FCG) usually meeting at Midtown's Assembly Hall mulls over conducting a YEAR-ENDER ACTIVITY that has been a practice of said care group for many years. There was no YEAR-ENDER ACTIVITY last year due to the restrictions imposed on social gatherings. Now that the restrictions have relaxed in the city, having reached it's HERD IMMUNITY, said care group may be able to push through with a YEAR-ENDER ACTIVITY on December 17th. The venue is yet to be finally decided this coming Friday, December 10th.

Last Friday, December 3, 2021, the FCG reached an attendance of over thirty (30) because of a special activity known as "SINGSPIRATION" conducted by the YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUNG ADULTS led by brothers Jesse Bestre, Janriel Abance and Ezra Valdez. It was also the birthday celebration of sister Lady Janet Ramos.

The FRIDAY CARE GROUP enjoyed the singing, the reading of Scriptures, the meditations of the Word, the sharing of meals, and the warm fellowship!Ω

**Second collection for staff ministers' yearend bonus today**

In keeping with the Scripture's directive to doubly honor those who direct the affairs of the church and whose work is preaching and teaching (1 Timothy 5:17), another round of special collection for the YEAREND BONUSES for Midtown's four full-time staff ministers—Annan A. Bayla, Andy E. Bestre, Jesse Reuben M. Bestre, and Ezra Valdez, will be made right after the regular offering today, December 5, 2021. This is especially for those who were unable to give during the first collection done last Sunday, November 28, 2021. God bless you all richly!Ω

**LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD**  
**November 28, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE**

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL
ADULTS.....108	PRESCHOOL.....5
YPEEZ.....17	GRADES 1-3 .....16
CHILDREN.....1	GRADES 4-6.....4
GUEST.....3	H.S./COL.....6
	YAs.....15
TOTAL.....129	TOTAL.....46

**OFFERING**

**AM & PM TOTAL:**  
**PhP35,646.00**

**• P R A Y E R L I S T •**

**FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY [ASSEMBLY 1] BRETHREN:**

- \*Gloria Yang
- \*Josefa Josayan
- \*Gil, Diana, Donna Geron
- \*Andy & Jane Bestre
- \*Priscilla Bayasen
- \*Rolito & Pina Tugay-an
- \*Dave & Sharon Memillin
- \*Dan & Dodoy Sameon
- \*Dih Zamora
- \*Tess Kitma
- \*Jun Bondoc
- \*Loida Baddas
- \*Marina Mabesa
- \*Bernard Ignacio
- \*Jonathan Enerva
- \*Dick Baguioen
- \*Nida Gabriel
- \*Thaddeus Baggao
- \*Bernabe Ignacio
- \*Alan Patrick Akia

- \*Melba & Jerry Licupa
- \*Primitiva Ridon
- \*Aries John Igoy & Family
- \*Maryann Valdez
- \*Cesar Acosta

- [ASSEMBLY 2] REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:**
- \*Ian & Beth Pajantoy Family
  - \*Arian Kaith Igoy
  - \*Robinson Palaypayon
  - \*Carmen Villanueva
  - \*Menchie Mojica
  - \*Magdalena A. Gavino
  - \*Teresita De Leon
  - \*Jemmilyn Villanueva
  - \*Ron Paul Gavino
  - \*Mary Elaine Dolteo
  - \*Susan Porte Aballa
  - \*Melanio Carreon
  - \*Mary Jane Acdang
  - \*Dominador Malatag
  - \*Camelia Luna
  - \*Karen Castillo

- [ASSEMBLY 3] SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE**
- \*Local, National, World Leaders & Government
  - \*On-going Seekers' Bible Study

- SAFETY Medical Frontliners:**
- \*Shinar Sameon—Ciencia
  - \*Aurma Sacayanan
  - \*Che Astadan
  - \*Lorigrace Austria
  - \*Rossana Andaya
  - \*Domel Gonzales
  - \*Jess Perdigon
  - \*Alex & Ella Ciencia

**OTHER CONCERNS**

- \*Ella Badua-Ciencia (SafePregnancy)

**A N N O U N C E M E N T S !**

- TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM— DECEMBER 7, 2021 | 12:00—2:30 PM |
- YOUNG PEOPLE'S VIRTUAL MEETINGS/ CARE GROUP—EVERY THURS & SAT @ 5-6 PM
- MIDWEEK DEVOTIONAL @ MIDTOWN—WEDNESDAYS @ 6-8 PM | FRIDAY CARE GROUP—@ 6-8 PM
- DAILY RS (READING, REFLECTION, AND RESPONSE) — ON FACEBOOK LIVE EVERYDAY @ 9:00 PM
- VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE— PLEASE COORDINATE WITH TEACHERS.
  - PRESCHOOL CLASS @ 3:30—4:30 PM .....C/O KESHA OLIVA—09955633844
  - GRADES 1-3 CLASS @ 3:30—4:30 PM .....C/O MAUREEN SORIANO—09756895950
  - GRADES 4-6 CLASS @ 3:30—4:30 PM .....C/O KANA PERDIGON—09158639845
  - HIGH SCHOOL CLASS @ 3:30 PM .....C/O ALTON MARK BAYLA—09610166351
  - COLLEGE/YAS CLASS @ 4:30 PM .....C/O JESSE BESTRE—09165437746

# JESUS, THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST

The Hebrew Christians who received this letter were sorely tempted to return to the religion of their fathers. After all, any Jew could travel to Jerusalem and see the temple and the priests ministering at the altar. Here, was something real, visible, concrete. When a person is going through persecution, as these Hebrew Christians were, it is much easier to walk by sight than by faith. Some of us have doubted the Lord under much less provocation than these people were enduring.

The central theme of Hebrews is the priesthood of Jesus Christ, what He is now doing in heaven on behalf of His people. Is the high priestly ministry of Christ superior to that of Aaron and his successors? Yes, it is; and the writer proves his assertion by presenting the argument that Jesus is superior over all based on Hebrews 4:14-16.

"Seeing then that we have a GREAT High Priest" (Heb 4:14). Aaron was a "high priest," but Jesus Christ is the GREAT High Priest. No Old Testament priest could assume that title. But in what does our Lord's greatness consist?

**1. JESUS CHRIST IS BOTH GOD AND MAN.** He is "Jesus, the Son of God." The name "Jesus" means "Saviour" and identifies His humanity and His ministry on earth. "Son of God" affirms His deity and the fact that He is God. In His unique person, Jesus Christ unites Deity and humanity, so that He can bring people to God and bring to people all that God has for them.

**2. JESUS CHRIST IS GREAT IN POSITION.** Aaron and his successors ministered in the tabernacle and temple precincts, once a year entering the holy of holies. But Jesus Christ has "Passed through the heavens" (Heb 4:14, literal translation). When He ascended to the Father, Jesus Christ passed through the atmospheric heavens and the planetary heavens into the third heaven where God dwells (2 Cor 12:2). How much better is it to have a High Priest who ministers in a heavenly tabernacle than in an earthly one!

**3. JESUS CHRIST IS ENTHRONED.** His throne is "the throne of grace" (Heb 4:16). The mercy seat on the ark of the covenant was God's throne in Israel (Ex 25:17-22), but it could never be called "a throne of grace." Grace does not veil itself from the people. Grace does not hide itself in a tent. Furthermore, the common people were not permitted to enter the holy precincts of the tabernacle and the temple, and the priests got only as far as the veil. The high priest alone went beyond the veil, and only on the Day of Atonement (Lev 16). But every believer in Christ is invited, and is even encouraged, to

"come boldly unto the throne of grace"! What a great throne it is because our Great High Priest is ministering there.

**Something else makes Him great: He is administering mercy and grace to those who come for help. Mercy means that God does not give us what we do deserve; grace means that He gives us what we do not deserve.**

No Old Testament high priest could minister mercy and grace in quite the same way. When an Israelite was tempted, he could not easily run to the high priest for help; and he certainly could not enter the holy of holies for God's help. But as believers in Jesus Christ, we can run to our High Priest at any time, in any circumstance, and find the help that we need.

Now because of the superiority of Jesus Christ, the Great High Priest, over Aaron, two important conclusions can be drawn. First, there is no need in giving up our profession just because we are going through testing and trial (Heb 4:14). The word translated "profession" means "confession." These Hebrew Christians were tempted to give up their confession of faith in Christ and their confidence in Him (see Heb 3:6,14). By returning to the Old Testament system, they would be telling everyone that they had no faith in Christ (see Gal 2:11-21). This kind of unbelief would only bring reproach to Christ's name.

The second conclusion is this: there is no need to go back because we can come boldly into the presence of God and get the help we need (Heb 4:16). No trial is too great, no temptation is too strong, but that Jesus Christ can give us the mercy and grace that we need, when we need it.

**If we fail to hold fast our confession, we are not proving that Jesus Christ has failed. We are only telling the world that we failed to draw on His grace and mercy when it was freely available to us. Ω**

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## HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS DURING THE GCQ & NEW NORMAL

For the safety of everyone, the congregation is urged to cooperate and strictly follow the following HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS during the QUARANTINE and the NEW NORMAL.

1. Wear facemasks & face shields properly at all times. The only time to remove them briefly is when partaking of the Lord's Supper. After which, facemasks and face shields must be worn again all throughout.
2. Every person must submit for body THERMAL SCANNING. Anyone with a body temperature higher than 37.5 will not be admitted and be sent home.
3. Persons with coughs and colds and with underlying ILL-HEALTH CONDITIONS are advised to stay home to stay safe.
4. Every person must have his or her hands sprayed with Sanitizing Alcohol before entry.
5. Observe physical distancing. Be at a safe distance from one another at least one (1) meter radius apart.
6. No handshakes, hugs, kisses, fist bumps, or any physical contact. Greet one another verbally, bowing to each other, or waiving hands to each other.
7. Observe safe foot traffic at the stairways. GIVE WAY TO EXITING PERSONS. No counter flow.
8. Every person must step on the SANITIZING FOOTBATH MAT before entry.
9. Every person must bring his or her own BALLPEN to fill in the LOGBOOK before entry.
10. The sink at the kitchen shall serve as HANDWASHING STATION. Feel free to wash hands.
11. In the observance of the LORD'S SUPPER, pick up the CUP AND UNLEAVENED BREAD without touching other cups and other pieces of bread. Both Cup & Bread trays will be held by the server and not to be handed from one person to another. Used cups must not be returned into the tray but must be placed into a separate receptacle held by the server.
12. The COLLECTION BAG shall be held by the server and not to be handed from one person to another.
13. Please use the Restrooms neatly and responsibly.
14. The SUNDAY SCHOOL (face-to-face) remains suspended until further notice from the government authorities. This is to reduce exposure of the vulnerable age under 21.
15. Worshippers are advised to leave the Assembly Hall after an assembly to give way to the next one.
16. The premises, chairs, handrails, microphones, and restrooms to be disinfected every after each WORSHIP ASSEMBLY. Ω

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them..." Ecclesiastes 12:1



## December Celebrators

- 01 - Denise A. Wagang
- 02 - Linda A. Yaneza
- 02 - Janet B. Ramos
- 02 - Ma. Alexis J. Sunggay
- 02 - Rolito S. Tugay-an
- 04 - Erika Abijar
- 05 - Daisy Calzo
- 08 - Josephine A. Baban
- 09 - Gracelynn Abance
- 09 - Marilyn Joy B. Gamboa
- 10 - Dencio B. Abance
- 11 - Jovita R. Bondoc
- 14 - Santiago B. Sameon II
- 16 - Christian S. Parohinog
- 17 - Jane M. Bestre
- 20 - Gaspar Baldo, Jr.
- 20 - Jess Perdigon
- 21 - Sotero Denis
- 21 - Kinsha C. Glori
- 22 - Jess Solomon
- 23 - Rosita Go
- 23 - Sherman C. Bestre
- 24 - Noel Espinosa
- 24 - Crispina Tugay-an
- 26 - Arlene G. Rimando
- 26 - Kaesha R. Palaypayon
- 26 - Sharon Kosgey
- 29 - Aldian R. Po
- 29 - Xelli Qea E. Parohinog
- 30 - Analyn B. Aronza



Please notify the M.I. Staff if your name should have been included in this list. Thank You.

### SUNDAY AM WORSHIP ASSEMBLY

- ASSEMBLY 1 - 9:00 - 10:15
- ASSEMBLY 2 - 10:30 - 11:45

### MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS SUNDAY PM WORSHIP

- 6:00-8:00
- ASSEMBLY 3: 1:00 - 2:00

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SERVING TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST  
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